

HOUSE RESOLUTION 214
By Harmon

A RESOLUTION to honor Mrs. Cora Lou Cookson upon being named the Sequatchie County High School 2003-2004 Alumnus of the Year.

WHEREAS, on October 3, 2003, during a halftime ceremony at the Sequatchie County High School homecoming game, Mrs. Cora Lou Cookson was recognized as the Sequatchie County High School 2003-2004 Alumnus of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cookson grew up in the Daus community and graduated from Sequatchie County High School in 1953, where she played basketball; after graduation, she attended McKenzie Business College in Chattanooga and embarked upon a 25-year career in financial management, retiring in 1990 for health reasons; and

WHEREAS, in 1979 Cora Cookson began volunteering with the American Cancer Society; she initiated the local "Sha Na Na" program as a fund raising ploy featuring local ladies portraying members of that 60s musical group, and the program ran through 1984; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cookson organized other fundraisers through 1990, when she began writing and directing the popular Hee-Haw benefit; in 2002, she and her family and friends founded the Sequatchie County Cancer Support Network; and

WHEREAS, all funds raised through the network benefit Sequatchie County residents; the organization offers financial help and has committees for a support group, food, transportation, cleaning, counseling and to provide other possible help; and

WHEREAS, the Sequatchie County Cancer Support network was founded while Cora Cookson was fighting cancer herself; her encounter with cancer began in 1986 and has resulted in five surgeries and continuing visits to Vanderbilt Hospital for treatments and consultation; and

WHEREAS, determined to combat the scourge of cancer, Mrs. Cookson has earned the admiration, respect and love of all those who have come to know her; it is most fitting and

appropriate that we pause in our deliberations to specially honor and recognize the efforts of this valiant, tireless and persistent professional woman and community activist; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we congratulate Mrs. Cora Lou Cookson upon being named the Sequatchie County High School 2003-2004 Alumnus of the Year, thank her for her years of selfless service on behalf of her community and state and offer her our best wishes for much happiness and satisfaction in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.